

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1 1. (Previously Presented) A method for a storage operating system implemented in a  
2 storage system to optimize an amount of readahead data retrieved from  
3 a data container of the storage system, comprising:  
4 managing a separate set of readahead metadata for each individual read stream of  
5 a plurality of read streams, wherein the read stream is a set of one or more client read  
6 requests to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a requested file;  
7 storing the separate set of readahead metadata in a corresponding individual  
8 readset data structure for the each individual read stream;  
9 maintaining, in the individual readset data structure, a plurality of factors for the  
10 each read stream, the plurality of factors determining the amount of readahead data  
11 retrieved from the data container the one or more client read requests;  
12 receiving a client read request associated with a particular read stream at the  
13 storage system and determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data  
14 container for the particular read stream;  
15 receiving a next client read request associated with the particular read stream;  
16 locating a readset data structure for the particular read stream;  
17 determining whether the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve  
18 readahead data from the data container in response to the received next client read  
19 request; and  
20 if it is determined that the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve  
21 readahead data from the data container, performing the steps of,  
22 (i) modifying one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the readset data  
23 structure for the particular read stream;  
24 (ii) adjusting, in response to modifying the one or more factors, an amount of  
25 readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request associated with the particular  
26 read stream, wherein the amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read

- 27 request is different from the amount of readahead data retrieved for the client read  
28 request;
- 29 (iii) retrieving the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container; and  
30 (iv) determining if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being updated,  
31 and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then updating the readset data structure.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data container is a file, directory, vdisk  
2 or lun.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the storage operating system is determined  
2 to be permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container when the client-  
3 requested data extends the read stream past a predetermined next readahead value.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the predetermined next readahead value is  
2 stored in a readset data structure associated with the read stream.
- 1 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the predetermined next  
2 readahead value is updated based on a percentage of the adjusted amount of readahead  
3 data.
- 1 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a read-access style associated  
2 with the data container is one of the plurality of factors used to select the amount of  
3 readahead data.
- 1 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the adjusted amount of  
2 readahead data equals zero if the read-access style corresponds to a random read-access  
3 style.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a number of client read  
2 requests processed in the read stream is one of the plurality of factors used to select the  
3 amount of readahead data.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the number of client read requests  
2 processed in the read stream is stored as a count value in a readset data structure  
3 associated with the read stream.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of client-  
2 requested data is one of the plurality of factors used to select the amount of readahead  
3 data.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the adjusted amount of  
2 readahead data is set equal to a predetermined upper limit for large amounts of client-  
3 requested data.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the adjusted amount of  
2 readahead data is doubled if the number of client read requests processed in the read  
3 stream is greater than a first threshold value.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the client-requested data is identified as  
2 read-once data when either (i) the number of client read requests processed in the read  
3 stream is greater than a second threshold value or (ii) a set of metadata associated with  
4 the read stream indicates that the client-requested data is read-once data.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the adjusted amount of  
2 readahead data is stored in one or more buffers enqueued on a flush queue, the flush  
3 queue being configured to reuse buffers after a predetermined period of time.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the predetermined period of time equals two seconds.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus configured to implement a storage operating system that optimizes an amount of readahead data retrieved from a data container of the apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a first data read command associated with a particular read stream, wherein the read stream is a set of one or more client read commands to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a requested file;

;

means for maintaining, for a selected file of a plurality of files, a plurality of readset data structures, each readset data structure holding a plurality of factors for a particular read stream, the plurality of factors allowing the system to adjust adaptively the amount of data retrieved from the data container;

means for receiving a client read request associated with the particular read stream and means for determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data container for the particular read stream;

means for receiving a next client read request associated with the particular read stream;

means for locating a readset data structure for the particular read stream;

means for adjusting an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data container based on modifying one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the readset data structure, wherein the adjusted amount is a different amount than an amount retrieved from the client read request;

means for retrieving the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container; and

means for determining if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being updated, and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then updating the readset data structure.

27 means for managing a separate set of readahead metadata for each individual read  
28 stream of a plurality of read streams, wherein the read stream is a set of one or more  
29 client read requests to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a  
30 requested file;

31 means for storing the separate set of readahead metadata in a corresponding  
32 individual readset data structure for the each individual read stream;

33 means for maintaining, in the individual readset data structure, a plurality of  
34 factors for the each read stream, the plurality of factors determining the amount of  
35 readahead data retrieved from the data container the one or more client read requests;

36 means for receiving a client read request associated with a particular read stream  
37 at the storage system and determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the  
38 data container for the particular read stream;

39 means for receiving a next client read request associated with the particular read  
40 stream;

41 means for locating a readset data structure for the particular read stream;

42 means for determining whether the storage operating system is permitted to  
43 retrieve readahead data from the data container in response to the received next client  
44 read request; and

45 if it is determined that the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve  
46 readahead data from the data container,

47 (i) means for modifying one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the  
48 readset data structure for the particular read stream;

49 (ii) means for adjusting, in response to modifying the one or more factors, an  
50 amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request associated with the  
51 particular read stream, wherein the amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next  
52 client read request is different from the amount of readahead data retrieved for the client  
53 read request;

54 (iii) means for retrieving the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data  
55 container; and

56           (iv) means for determining if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being  
57   updated, and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then updating the readset data  
58   structure.

1     17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the data container is a file, directory,  
2     vdisk or lun.

1     18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the storage operating system is  
2     determined to be permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container when the  
3     client-requested data extends the read stream past a predetermined next readahead value.

1     19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising means for  
2     updating the predetermined next readahead value based on a percentage of the adjusted  
3     amount of readahead data.

1     20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the plurality of factors  
2     used to select the amount of readahead data includes at least one of:

- 3           (i) the amount of client-requested data,  
4           (ii) a number of client read requests processed in the read stream, and  
5           (iii) a read-access style associated with the data container.

1     21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the adjusted amount of  
2     readahead data is doubled if the number of client read requests processed in the read  
3     stream is greater than a first threshold value.

1     22. (Currently Amended) A storage system configured to optimize an amount of  
2     readahead data retrieved from a data container of the storage system, the storage system  
3     comprising:

4           a network adapter for receiving a client read request for a particular read stream;

5 a memory configured to store instructions for implementing a storage operating  
6 system that performs the steps of:

7 ~~locating a readset data structure for the particular read stream;~~

8 ~~adjusting, in response to the readset data structure for the particular read stream,~~  
9 ~~the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container based on a plurality of~~  
10 ~~factors, the plurality of factors allowing the system to adjust adaptively the amount of~~  
11 ~~data retrieved from the data container;~~

12 ~~retrieving the adaptively adjusted amount of readahead data from the data~~  
13 ~~container;~~

14 managing a separate set of readahead metadata for each individual read stream of  
15 a plurality of read streams, wherein the read stream is a set of one or more client read  
16 requests to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a requested file;

17 storing the separate set of readahead metadata in a corresponding individual  
18 readset data structure for the each individual read stream;

19 maintaining, in the individual readset data structure, a plurality of factors for the  
20 each read stream, the plurality of factors determining the amount of readahead data  
21 retrieved from the data container the one or more client read requests;

22 receiving a client read request associated with a particular read stream at the  
23 storage system and determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data  
24 container for the particular read stream;

25 receiving a next client read request associated with the particular read stream;

26 locating a readset data structure for the particular read stream;

27 determining whether the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve  
28 readahead data from the data container in response to the received next client read  
29 request; and

30 if it is determined that the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve  
31 readahead data from the data container, performing the steps of,

32 (i) modifying one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the readset data  
33 structure for the particular read stream;

(ii) adjusting, in response to modifying the one or more factors, an amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request associated with the particular read stream, wherein the amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request is different from the amount of readahead data retrieved for the client read request;

(iii) retrieving the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container; and

(iv) determining if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being updated,

and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then updating the readset data structure.

23. (Original) The storage system of claim 22, wherein the data container is a file, directory, vdisk or lun.

24. (Original) The storage system of claim 22, wherein the storage operating system is determined to be permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container when the client-requested data extends the read stream past a predetermined next readahead value.

25. (Previously Presented) The storage system of claim 24, wherein the predetermined next readahead value is updated based on a percentage of the adjusted amount of readahead data.

26. (Previously Presented) The storage system of claim 22, wherein the plurality of factors used to select the amount of readahead data includes at least one of:

(i) the amount of client-requested data,

(ii) a number of client read requests processed in the read stream, and

(iii) a read-access style associated with the data container.

27. (Previously Presented) The storage system of claim 22, wherein the adjusted amount of readahead data is doubled if the number of client read requests processed in the read stream is greater than a first threshold value.



28. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media containing program instructions executed by a processor, comprising:

program instructions that receive a first data read command associated with a particular read stream, wherein the read stream is a set of one or more client read commands to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a requested file;

program instructions that maintain, for a selected file of a plurality of files, a plurality of readset data structures, each readset data structure holding a plurality of factors for a particular read stream based on a plurality of factors, the plurality of factors allowing the system to adjust adaptively the amount of data retrieved from the data container;

program instructions that receive a client read request associated with the particular read stream at the storage system and determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data container for the particular read stream;

program instructions that receive a next client read request associated with the particular read stream;

program instructions that locate a readset data structure for the particular read stream;

program instructions that determine whether the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container in response to the received next client read request;

if it is determined that the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container, executing program instructions that

(i) adjust an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data container based on modifying one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the readset data structure;

(ii) retrieve the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container; and

(iii) determine if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being updated, and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then updating the readset data structure.

program instructions that manage a separate set of readahead metadata for each individual read stream of a plurality of read streams, wherein the read stream is a set of

one or more client read requests to retrieve data from a contiguous range of file offsets within a requested file;

program instructions that store the separate set of readahead metadata in a corresponding individual readset data structure for the each individual read stream;

program instructions that maintain, in the individual readset data structure, a plurality of factors for the each read stream, the plurality of factors determining the amount of readahead data retrieved from the data container the one or more client read requests;

program instructions that receive a client read request associated with a particular read stream at the storage system and determining an amount of readahead data to retrieve from the data container for the particular read stream;

program instructions that receive a next client read request associated with the particular read stream;

program instructions that locate a readset data structure for the particular read stream;

program instructions that determine whether the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container in response to the received next client read request; and

if it is determined that the storage operating system is permitted to retrieve readahead data from the data container, program instructions that,

(i) modify one or more of the plurality of factors stored within the readset data structure for the particular read stream;

(ii) adjust, in response to modifying the one or more factors, an amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request associated with the particular read stream, wherein the amount of readahead data to retrieve for the next client read request is different from the amount of readahead data retrieved for the client read request;

(iii) retrieve the adjusted amount of readahead data from the data container; and

(iv) determine if the readset data structure meets a criteria for being updated, and if the readset data structure meets the criteria then update the readset data structure.

1 29. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 28, wherein the data container is a  
2 file, directory, vdisk or lun.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieved readahead data  
2 is stored in one or more buffers, the buffers containing a flush queue, the flush queue  
3 being configured to reuse buffers after a predetermined period of time.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the read stream  
2 corresponds to a read-once data transfer and data retrieved from the data container is  
3 stored in the flush queue.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the retrieved readahead  
2 data is stored in the flush queue.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein one or more buffers  
2 accessed from the flush queue are re-enqueued on a normal queue.

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